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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, FEBRUARY 4, 1999

APPLICATION OF

GTE SOUTH INCORPORATED

CASE NO. PUC990004

To implement extended local  
service from its Richlands exchange  
to Bell Atlantic-Virginia, Inc.'s  
Lebanon exchange

ORDER PRESCRIBING NOTICE

On January 8, 1999, GTE South Incorporated ("GTE" or "the Company") filed an application with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") pursuant to the provisions of Virginia Code § 56-484.2. GTE proposed to notify its Richlands exchange subscribers of the increases in monthly rates that would be necessary to extend their local service to include the Lebanon exchange of Bell Atlantic-Virginia, Inc. ("BA-VA"). The application states that telephone subscribers in BA-VA's Lebanon exchange had earlier petitioned the Commission for local calling to Richlands. Using a cost study prepared by BA-VA, the Commission determined the increase in monthly rates that would result from the expansion of the Lebanon local service area to include Richlands. Subscribers in the Lebanon exchange were polled regarding their willingness to pay higher rates for local

calling to Richlands. The majority of those responding supported the proposal.

Cost studies have been conducted to determine the monthly rates for expanded local service from Richlands to the Lebanon exchange. Because the resulting increase does not exceed 5% of the existing monthly one-party residential flat rate for Richlands, a poll of Richlands subscribers is not required by Virginia Code § 56-484.2.

Now, having considered GTE's application, GTE's proposed public notice, and applicable law, the Commission is of the opinion that this matter should be docketed; that GTE should give notice of this application to its customers in the Richlands exchange; and those subscribers should be permitted to file comments and requests for hearing on this application. Accordingly,

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- (1) This matter is docketed and assigned Case No. PUC990004.
- (2) On or before April 12, 1999, GTE customers who may be affected by this proposal may file with the Clerk of the Commission written comments or requests for hearing about this application. Any corporation shall be represented by Counsel in accordance with Rule 4:8 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure and shall file an original and fifteen (15) copies of any comment or request for hearing on or before that

deadline. Individuals may file single copies. All comments or requests for hearing shall be filed with Joel H. Peck, Clerk, State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218; and shall refer to Case No. PUC990004.

(3) A copy of this Order and the application shall be made available for public inspection at the Commission's Document Control Center located on the first floor of the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Upon customer request, a copy of GTE's application also shall be furnished by GTE's local manager for the Richlands service area.

(4) On or before March 12, 1999, GTE shall publish the following notice in the Richlands exchange twice as display advertising (not classified advertising) in newspapers of general circulation in that exchange.

NOTICE THAT GTE SOUTH INCORPORATED  
PROPOSES TO EXPAND THE LOCAL SERVICE AREA OF  
THE RICHLANDS EXCHANGE TO INCLUDE THE LEBANON  
EXCHANGE OF BELL ATLANTIC-VIRGINIA, INC.  
CASE NO. PUC990004

Telephone customers in Bell Atlantic-Virginia's ("BA-VA") Lebanon exchange petitioned the Virginia State Corporation Commission ("Commission") for local calling to the Richlands exchange of GTE South Incorporated ("GTE"). Customers in the Lebanon exchange were polled regarding their willingness to pay an increase in monthly rates for local calling to the Richlands

exchange. The majority of those customers responding in the Lebanon exchange support this expansion of local service.

Based on GTE's costs, the Commission determined the monthly rates for expanded local service for Richlands customers (telephone numbers beginning with 596, 963, and 964) to call the Lebanon exchange (telephone numbers beginning with 794, 880, 883, and 889). For expanded local calling to Lebanon from Richlands, monthly rates would increase as follows: flat rate residential service, \$.36; residential Virginia Universal Service Plan service, \$.36; residential measured exchange only service, \$.26; residential measured economy service, \$.22; flat rate business service, \$.83; business key line service, \$.83; business flat rate trunk service, \$1.86; and business measured service: single line service, \$.57; key line service, \$.57; trunk service, \$.57; and customer owned coin, \$.38. Customers whose rates are not listed above or who desire more information on this proposed change should contact Chris Stiltner, GTE's local manager for the Richlands service area, at (540) 935-7965.

Copies of GTE's application may be obtained by contacting GTE's local manager at the telephone number listed above or may be reviewed at the Commission's Document Control Center located on the first floor of the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

Customers wishing to comment on the proposed change to their local calling area or to request a hearing on the application may do so by filing such requests or comments in writing, referring to Case No. PUC990004, with the Clerk of the Commission, Joel H. Peck, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218, on or before April 12, 1999.

If the Commission receives objections or requests for hearing from the lesser of 5% or 150 of the Richlands customers, it may consider GTE's application without a hearing.

GTE SOUTH INCORPORATED

(5) On or before April 12, 1999, GTE shall provide proof of the notice required above.

(6) If the Commission receives objections or requests for hearing from the lesser of 5% or 150 of the Richlands exchange customers, it may consider GTE's application without a hearing.

(7) On or before April 30, 1999, the Division of Communications shall file a report with the Commission on the number of objections to the proposal.